

Message Text

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SUBJ: BILATERAL PLANNING TALKS

REF TOKYO 9220

FOR: S/P - WINSTON LORD

FOLLOWING IS ADDITIONAL FORMIN PAPER FOR PLANNING TALKS.
THE MIDDLE EAST - THIS PAPER REPRESENTS THE PERSONAL
VIEW OF A MEMBER OF THE RESEARCH AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT
AND HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY CLEARED WITHIN THE MINISTRY.

1. JAPAN'S BASIC POLICY OBJECTIVES TOWARD MIDDLE EAST
THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED OBJECTIVE OF JAPAN'S POLICY
TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST HAS BEEN TO SECURE OIL AND MARKET FOR
ITS TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN THE AREA.
THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES SHOULD ALSO BE SOUGH IN
JJAPAN'S FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE STATES IN THE AREA:-
-- TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACHEIVEMENT AND MANNTENANCE OF
PEACE;
-- TO COOPERATE WITH THE WEST FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICAL STABILITY OF THIS AREA;
-- TO PROMOTE POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING
WITH KEY STATES IN THE AREA.
THESE POLICY OBJECTIVES SHOULD BASICALLY BE COMPATIBLE
WITH THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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2. JAPAN'S BASIC PROBLEMS IN FORMULATING ITS POLICY

TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST

THE FOLLOWING BASIC PROBLEMS JAPAN FACES CALL FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION AS THEY MAY CREATE SOME GAP BETWEEN THE U.S.'S AND JAPAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARD MIDDLE EAST:-

- (1) THE PREDOMINANT SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS IN THE JAPANESE MINDS ON THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THOSE STATES;
- (2) ABSENCE OF CONSENSUS ON JAPAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH SMALL NON-OIL PRODUCERS IN THE AREA;
- (3) THE POPULAR IGNORANCE OF THE CLIMATE AND NATURE OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICTS INCLUDING THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY IN THE JAPANESE MASS MEDIA;
- (4) LACK OF HISTORIC TIES AND POLITICAL INFLUENCE AS WELL AS PERSONAL CONTACTS FAR SHORT OF AN ADEQUATE LEVEL;
- (5) IMPOSSIBILITY TO RENDER SECURITY RELATED ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE;
- (6) LACK OF EXPERIENCE IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH FINANCIALLY RICH STATES WITHOUT HAVING A GOOD CLIMATE FOR INVESTMENT DUE TO THEIR SOCIAL, CLIMATIC AND OTHER CONDITIONS;

3. BASIC POLICY IMPLICATIONS

JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES SHOULD KEEP MUCH CLOSER CONTACTS SO AS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS, EXPERIENCES AND INFORMATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AT ALL LEVELS AND SHOULD ALSO SEEK, JOINTLY OR INDIVIDUALLY, WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE OBJECTIVES AS ABOVE MENTIONED; E.G. TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH SUCH FINANCIALLY RICH COUNTRIES AS SAUDI ARABIA, TO STUDY JOINTLY POSSIBILITY OF MULTILATERAL COOPERATION, TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AS TO WHAT ROLE JAPAN CAN PLAY ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP, OR TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM.

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